## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS

PRABHAS MOKKAPAT,	
Plaintiff,	
v. )	Case No.
GREENSCAPE HOMES, LLC,  GREENSCAPE HOMES-KPN LLC,  CREENSCAPE DEALERY LLC,	Removed from Cook County Circuit Court Case No. 18 L 9016
GREENSCAPE REALTY LLC, ) KPN REAL ESTATE HOLDINGS LLC, ) GREENSCAPE VENTURES, LLC, )	
MKJ HOLDINGS, LLC, GREENSCAPE VENTURES, L.L.C. KENNETH P. NEUMANN,	
KEITH R. NEUMANN, JENNIFER ) BROST, KATHLEEN WASHKO, )	
P. LUSK AND LUSK LAW LLC,	
<b>Defendants.</b> )	

# NOTICE OF REMOVAL OF ACTION UNDER 28 U.S.C. § 1441(a) – FEDERAL QUESTION

To: Clerk of the Circuit Court Paul Caghan
of Cook County Law Office of Paul Caghan LLC
50 West Washington, Room 801 300 N. LaSalle Street, Suite 4925
Chicago, IL 60602 Chicago, IL 60654

Clerk's Office
United States District Court
Barone Law Group, PC
Northern District of Illinois
Everett McKinley Dirksen
United States Courthouse
219 S. Dearborn St.

Anthony Barone
Barone Law Group, PC
635 Butterfield Road, Suite 135
Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181

Defendants Greenscape Homes LLC, Greenscape Homes-KPN LLC, Greenscape Realty

LLC, KPN Real Estate Holdings LLC, Greenscape Ventures LLC, MKJ Holding LLC, and Jennifer

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Chicago, IL 60604

Brost hereby remove Case No. 18 L 9016 from the Circuit Court of Cook County, Illinois, to the United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331, 1441 and 1446, and as grounds for their removal of this case, state as follow:

#### STATEMENT OF THE CASE

- 1. On August 21, 2018, Plaintiff filed a Complaint in the Circuit Court of Cook County, Illinois, styled Mokkapat v. Greenscape Homes, LLC, et al Case No. 18 L 9016 (the "State Court Action"). A copy of the Complaint is attached as Exhibit "A".
  - 2. The Complaint purported to assert a single cause of action for fraud.
- 3. On November 9, 2018, Defendants Michael P. Lusk and Lusk Law, LLC filed a Motion to Dismiss. A copy of the Motion to Dismiss is attached as Exhibit "B".
- 4. On November 13, 2018, Defendants Greenscape Homes LLC, Greenscape Homes-KPN LLC, Greenscape Realty LLC, KPN Real Estate Holdings LLC, Greenscape Ventures LLC, and Jennifer Brost filed a Motion to Dismiss. A copy of the Motion to Dismiss is attached as <a href="Exhibit">Exhibit</a> "C".
- 5. On November 19, 2018, Plaintiff was given leave to file an amended complaint. A copy of the Court Order is attached as Exhibit "D".
- 6. On December 16, 2018, Plaintiff served Notice that an Amended Complaint had been filed with the Circuit Court of Cook County, Illinois. A copy of the Notice and Amended Complaint is attached as <a href="Exhibit">Exhibit "E"</a>.
- 7. The Amended Complaint purports to assert eleven (11) causes of action: (1) fraud; (2) breach of contract; (3) Civil Rico Violation of 18 U.S.C. 1962(a); (4) Civil Rico Violation of 18 U.S.C. 1962(c); (5) Civil Rico Violation of 18 U.S.C. 1962(d); (6) aiding and abetting fraud; (7) breach of fiduciary duty; (8) aiding and abetting breach of fiduciary duty; (9) civil conspiracy; Notice of Removal Page 2 of 5

(10) violation of the Illinois Consumer Fraud and Deceptive Business Practices Act; and (11) unjust enrichment.

- 8. The Amended Complaint contains causes of action of which this Court has original jurisdiction under 28 U.S.C. § 1331 and is one which may be removed to this Court by defendants pursuant to the provisions of 28 U.S.C. § 1441 in that it arises under 18 U.S.C. § 1962 ("Civil RICO").
- 9. The first date upon which defendants received notice that the Plaintiff was asserting causes of action under federal law was December 16, 2018.
- 10. All other defendants who have been properly served with Summons and Complaints consent to the removal of this action to the United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois.

### ALL PROCEDURAL REQUIREMENTS FOR REMOVAL HAVE BEEN SATISFIED

- 11. In accordance with 28 U.S.C. § 1446(a), a true and correct copy of all of the process, pleadings, orders and documents from the State Court Action which have been served upon Defendants Greenscape Homes LLC, Greenscape Homes-KPN LLC, Greenscape Realty LLC, KPN Real Estate Holdings LLC, Greenscape Ventures LLC, MKJ Holding LLC, and Jennifer Brost are attached as Group Exhibit "F" (other than the aforementioned Exhibits "A-E").
- 12. This Notice of Removal is timely under 28 U.S.C. § 1446(b)(3) because it was filed within the 30-day period after Defendants received a copy of the Amended Complaint from which Defendants first ascertained that the case had become removable.
- 13. Venue properly lies within this District pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1446(a) because the State-Court Action is pending in the Circuit Court of Cook County, Illinois, which lies within this District.

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14. Promptly after filing this Notice of Removal, Defendants Greenscape Homes LLC,

Greenscape Homes-KPN LLC, Greenscape Realty LLC, KPN Real Estate Holdings LLC,

Greenscape Ventures LLC, MKJ Holding LLC, and Jennifer Brost will give written notice thereof

to all other parties to the State-Court Action, and will file a copy of the Notice of Removal with the

Clerk of the Circuit Court of Cook County, Illinois, all in accordance with 28 U.S.C. § 1446(d).

**CONCLUSION** 

By this Notice of Removal, Defendants Greenscape Homes LLC, Greenscape Homes-KPN

LLC, Greenscape Realty LLC, KPN Real Estate Holdings LLC, Greenscape Ventures LLC, MKJ

Holding LLC, and Jennifer Brost do not waive any defenses or objections they may have to this

action. Defendants Greenscape Homes LLC, Greenscape Homes-KPN LLC, Greenscape Realty

LLC, KPN Real Estate Holdings LLC, Greenscape Ventures LLC, MKJ Holding LLC, and Jennifer

Brost intend no admission of fact, law or liability by this Notice, and expressly reserve all defenses

and/or motions.

Dated: January 11, 2019.

GREENSCAPE HOMES LLC, GREENSCAPE HOMES-KPN LLC, GREENSCAPE REALTY LLC, KPN REAL ESTATE HOLDINGS LLC, GREENSCAPE VENTURES LLC, MKJ HOLDING LLC, and JENNIFER BROST

By: /s/ Michael A. O'Brien One of their Attorneys

O'Brien Law Offices, P.C. Michael A. O'Brien/6216625 Leslie G. Bleifuss/6224495 124A South County Farm Road Wheaton, IL 60187

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#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I, Michael A. O'Brien, an attorney representing the Defendants Greenscape Homes LLC, Greenscape Homes-KPN LLC, Greenscape Realty LLC, KPN Real Estate Holdings LLC, Greenscape Ventures LLC, MKJ Holding LLC, and Jennifer Brost hereby certify that on January 11, 2019, I mailed via first-class United States mail, postage prepaid, the foregoing Notice of Removal to the following non-ECF participants by placing that document in a sealed envelope and depositing said envelope and its contents in the United States mail at 124A South County Farm Road, Wheaton, Illinois as required by 28 U.S.C. § 1446(d):

Paul Caghan Law Office of Paul Caghan LLC 300 N. LaSalle Street, Suite 492 Chicago, IL 60654 Anthony Barone Barone Law Group, PC 635 Butterfield Road, Suite 130 Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181

I also hereby certify that I served the foregoing Notice of Removal via email on January 11, 2019, by emailing same to <a href="mailto:caghan@ameritech.net">caghan@ameritech.net</a> and <a href="mailto:abarone@baronelawgroup.com">abarone@baronelawgroup.com</a> on or before 5:00 p.m.

I also hereby certify that I caused (or will cause) the Notice of Removal (accompanied by an appropriate Notice of Filing) to be filed on January 14, 2019, with the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Cook County, Illinois, as required by 28 U.S.C. § 1446(d).

By: <u>/s/ Michael A. O'Brien</u> Michael A. O'Brien, attorney